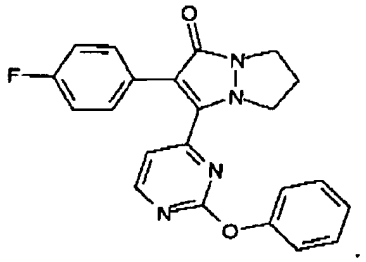
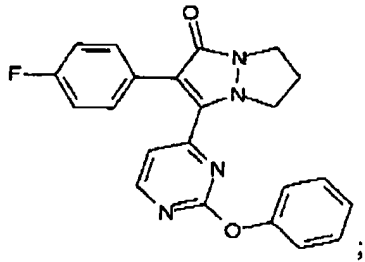
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) The compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



2. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

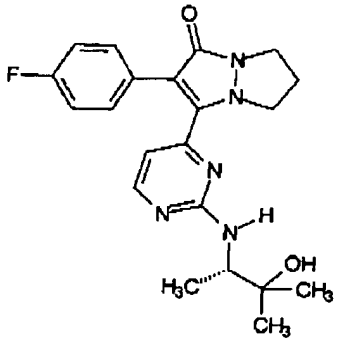
a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



; and

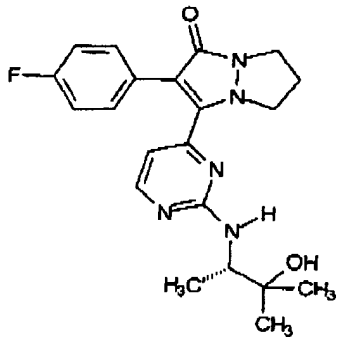
b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

3. (Previously presented) The compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[2-(2-hydroxy-1,2-dimethylpropylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



4. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[2-(2-hydroxy-1,2-dimethylpropylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one ~~2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one~~, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:

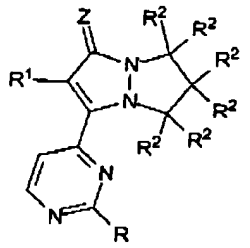


; and

b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

5. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the ~~osteoarthritis,~~ rheumatoid arthritis ~~and diabetes~~ in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) an effective amount of one or more bicyclic pyrazolones including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



wherein R is:

a) $-O[CH_2]_kR^3$; or

b) $-NR^{4a}R^{4b}$;

R^3 is substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_4 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic, substituted or unsubstituted hydrocarbyl, substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl or alkylenearyl, substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl or alkyleneheteroaryl; the index k is from 0 to 5;

R^{4a} and R^{4b} are each independently:

a) hydrogen; or

b) $-[C(R^{5a}R^{5b})]_mR^6$;

each R^{5a} and R^{5b} are independently hydrogen, or C_1-C_4 linear, branched, or cyclic alkyl, and mixtures thereof; R^6 is hydrogen, $-OR^7$, $-N(R^7)_2$, $-CO_2R^7$, $-CON(R^7)_2$; substituted or unsubstituted C_1-C_4 alkyl, substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl; R^7 is hydrogen, a water-soluble cation, C_1-C_4 alkyl, or substituted or unsubstituted aryl; the index m is from 0 to 5;

R^1 is:

a) substituted or unsubstituted aryl; or

b) substituted or unsubstituted heteroaryl;

each R^2 unit is independently selected from the group consisting of:

a) hydrogen;

b) $-(CH_2)_jO(CH_2)_nR^8$;

c) $-(CH_2)_jNR^{9a}R^{9b}$;

d) $-(CH_2)_jCO_2R^{10}$;

e) $-(CH_2)_jOCO_2R^{10}$

f) $-(CH_2)_jCON(R^{10})_2$;

g) $-(CH_2)_jOCON(R^{10})_2$;

h) two R^2 units can be taken together to form a carbonyl unit;

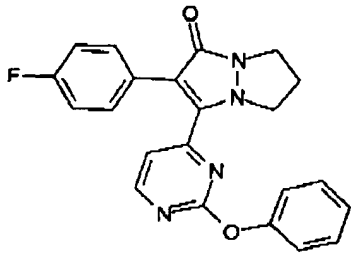
i) and mixtures thereof;

R^8, R^{9a}, R^{9b}, and R^{10} are each independently hydrogen, C_1-C_4 alkyl, and mixtures thereof; R^{9a} and R^{9b} can be taken together to form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring comprising from 3 to 7 atoms; two R^{10} units can be take together to form a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring comprising from 3 to 7 atoms; j is an index from 0 to 5, n is an index from 0 to 5; Z is O, S, NR^{11}, or NOR^{11}; R^{11} is hydrogen or C_1-C_4 alkyl; and

b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

6. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the ~~osteoarthritis,~~ rheumatoid arthritis ~~and diabetes~~ in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(2-phenoxy-pyrimidin-4-yl)-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo-[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:

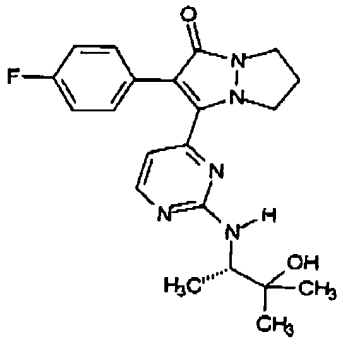


; and

b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

7. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the ~~osteoarthritis,~~ rheumatoid arthritis ~~and diabetes~~ in humans, said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a) an effective amount of the compound 2-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-[2-(2-hydroxy-1,2-dimethylpropylamino)pyrimidin-4-yl]-6,7-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[1,2-a]pyrazol-1-one, including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound having the formula:



; and

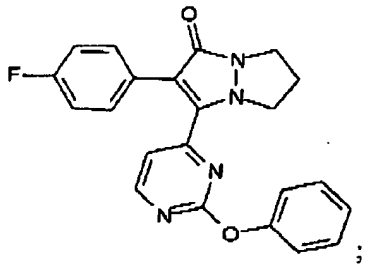
b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

8. (Currently amended) A method for controlling the level of one or more inflammation inducing cytokines selected from the group consisting of, interleukin-1 (IL-1), Tumor Necrosis Factor-α (TNF-α), interleukin-6 (IL-6), and

interleukin-8 (IL-8), ~~thereby controlling, mediating, or abating disease states affected by the level of extracellular inflammatory cytokines in humans,~~ said method comprising the step of administering to said humans a pharmaceutical composition comprising:

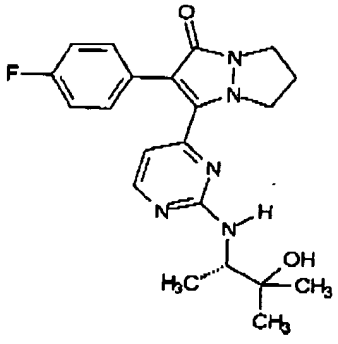
a) an effective amount of one or more bicyclic pyrazolones including all enantiomeric and diasteriomeric forms and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, said compound selected from bicyclic pyrazolones having the formula:

i)



;

ii)



; and

iii) mixtures thereof; and

b) one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.